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CDS

RTTUZDSW RUEHMOA8760 1800831-UUUU--RHEFLGX.
ZNR UUUUU ZZH

HEADER

R 280831Z JUN 04 ZDS
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//OUSDP ISA/DPMO//
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP ADMIN//
INFO RUAGKFC/CINC UNC CFC CC SEOUL KOR
RULSNDX/NAVHISTCEN WASHDC
RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KIEV
RUEHSK/AMEMBASSY MINSK
RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI
RUEHVN/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
RUEHLN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG
RUEHYG/AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG
RUEHVK/AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK
RHEFLGX/SAFE WASHINGTON DC
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CONTROLS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 MOSCOW 008760
C O R R E C T E D COPY (DELETED BAD ADDRESSEES)
DEPT FOR EUR/ISCA AND EAP
E.O. 12958: N/A
/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

TAGS: KPOW, MOPS, PREL, PHUM, PINR, RS, UP, BO
SUBJECT: **JCSD**-M INTERVIEWS OF VLADIVOSTOK OFFICIALS
1. BACKGROUND: A TEAM OF **JCSD** REPRESENTATIVES
LTC JOSEPH A. T. SANCHEZ, MSGT THOMAS W. SHIPP JR.
AND MS. IRINA KORYAKINA TRAVELED TO VLADIVOSTOK TO
CONDUCT FAR EAST SURVEY MISSION COORDINATION AND TO
CONTACT OFFICIALS IN VLADIVOSTOK TO FACILITATE
INTERVIEWS WITH VLADIVOSTOK **VETERANS**. MUCH OF
JCSDS CONTACT INFORMATION FOR **VETERANS** IN THAT
REGION WAS INSUFFICIENT, REQUIRING UPDATING AND
EXPANSION.
2. SANCHEZ, SHIPP AND KORYAKINA WENT TO THE AMERICAN
CONSULATE IN VLADIVOSTOK TO MEET WITH POLITICAL-
ECONOMIC OFFICER, MR. RANDALL HOUSTON. HOUSTON WAS

IN THE UNITED STATES ON EMERGENCY LEAVE, SO THE TEAM MET WITH THE POL-ECON ASSISTANT, MS. VICTORIA BUTYLEVA, PHONE: (4232) 300-070, EXT. 4606, E-MAIL: BUTYLEVA2@STATE.GOV. AT THIS MEETING, SANCHEZ EXPLAINED THAT THE SUPPORT BRANCH OF THE RUSSIAN SIDE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION FACED AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE AND THAT IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY FOR **JCSD** TO SEEK THE HELP OF THE AMERICAN CONSULATE TO COORDINATE CERTAIN PERMISSIONS NEEDED FOR THE UPCOMING SITE SURVEY MISSION IN PETROPAVLOVSK-KAMCHATSKI (P-K) IN AUGUST 2004. OF PRIMARY CONCERN WERE PERMISSIONS FOR THE USE OF GPS AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND COORDINATION OF A HELICOPTER THROUGH THE RUSSIAN BORDER GUARD COMMAND IN THAT LOCATION. BUTYLEVAS RESPONSE WAS POSITIVE, EXPRESSING OPTIMISM PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO HELICOPTER COORDINATION. SHE STATED SHE HAD MET THE COMMANDER OF THE BORDER GUARDS THERE AND HAD EXPERIENCED POSITIVE COOPERATION IN THE PAST.

MS. BUTYLEVA ALSO OFFERED ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING CONTACT INFORMATION FOR MR. EVGENIJ VERISHAGA, AN INDIVIDUAL OUR INFORMATION INDICATED CLAIMS TO HAVE FOUND A SUNKEN US SUBMARINE FROM WORLD WAR II. IN AN INTERNET ARTICLE, VERISHAGA STATES HE WAS DOING OTHER RESEARCH ON AN ISLAND SOUTH OF THE P-K PENINSULA WHEN HE DISCOVERED A SUNKEN JAPANESE TRANSPORT VESSEL. APPARENTLY VERISHAGAS RESEARCH INFORMED HIM OF SPECULATION ON THE USS HERRING S-233 SUBMARINE BEING SUNK IN THAT VICINITY BY A JAPANESE SHORE BATTERY. ON 07 JUN 2004 THE **JCSD** TEAM TELEPHONED VERISHAGA WHO STATED THAT HIS TEAM DID NOT FIND THE US SUBMARINE, BUT THAT WITH BETTER EQUIPMENT HE COULD LOCATE THE VESSEL. VERISHAGA ALSO WANTS TO CONDUCT ANOTHER EXPEDITION THIS YEAR, BUT REQUIRES FUNDING. HE HAD ALREADY BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE US NAVAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY REGARDING HIS SEARCH FOR THE SUBMARINE AND HAS DEALT WITH THE RUSSIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS LOCATED ON THE P-K PENINSULA. VERISHAGA IS WILLING TO BE RE-CONTACTED. HIS PHONE NUMBER IS (4152) 134-270 OR CELL (4152) 182-772 OR HOME

(4152) 13-21-73, INTERNET WWW.KURILS-TOUR.RU OR WWW.KAMVESTI.RU. VERISHAGA LIVES ON THE P-K PENINSULA.

3. MEETINGS WITH VLADIVOSTOK ORGANIZATIONS: SANCHEZ, SHIPP AND KORYAKINA MET WITH THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS WHILE IN VLADIVOSTOK:

- A. SOCIETY OF **VETERANS**: JSCD TEAM MET WITH ANATOLY GEORGIEVICH BULYGIN, CHIEF OF THE PRIMORSKIY KRAJ SOCIETY OF **VETERANS**. ADDRESS PERVAYA MORSKAYA ST, BLDG 2, OFFICE 113; PHONE (4232) 41-14-26. BULYGIN UPDATED SOME OF THE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR **VETERANS** ON THE JSCD LIST AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, REFERRED **JCS**D TO THE ORGANIZATION BOEVOE BRATSTVO AND TO MR. VLADIMIR PLATONOVICH LEGETSKIY OF THE SOCIETY OF **VETERANS** OF THE FAR EASTERN NAVAL MERCHANT FLEET (DVMP).
- B. DVMP: **JCS**D TEAM MET WITH VLADIMIR PLATONOVICH LEGETSKIY, OFFICE ADDRESS 35B BESTUZHEVA ST,

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VLADIVOSTOK 690003, PHONE (4232) 49-65-08. HOME ADDRESS 101 OKEANSKIY PROSPEKT, APT 16, VLADIVOSTOK 690003, PHONE (4232) 45-22-81. LEGETSKIY IS THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMUNITY OF **VETERANS** OF FESCO (FAR EAST SHIPPING COMPANY). LEGETSKIY PLEDGED POSITIVE COOPERATION AND SAID ON 20 JUN 2004 THAT HE WOULD PROVIDE **JCS**D WITH A LIST OF VLADIVOSTOK **VETERANS** WITH CONTACT INFORMATION. HE ALSO SAID HE WOULD PLACE A NOTICE SOLICITING **VETERANS** TO STEP FORWARD WITH ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING AMERICAN POW/MIAS.

- C. BOEVOE BRATSTVO (VSEROSSIJSKOE OBSHCHESTVENNOE DVIZHENIE **VETERANOV** LOKALNYKH VOJN I VOYENNIKH KONFLIKTOV): **JCS**D TEAM MET WITH VICTOR VASILEVICH BOBROV, THE BOEVOE BRATSTVO LEADER RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OF PRIMORSKIY KRAJ. ADDRESS BORODINSKAYA ST, BLDG 46-50, 5TH FLOOR, OFFICE 507, PHONE (4232) 24-21-36 OR (4232) 24-28-19 OR CELL (4232) 52-31-96. THE **JCS**D TEAM BRIEFED BOBROV ON US ASSISTANCE REGARDING SOVIET MIAS IN AFGHANISTAN PROVIDED TO GEN. LT. (RET) RUSLAN SULTANOVICH AUSHEVS COMMONWEALTH OF

INDEPENDENT STATES LOCAL CONFLICT **VETERANS** COMMITTEE. BOBROV INDICATED THAT HE WAS ALREADY AWARE OF THE ASSISTANCE THE US SIDE PROVIDED TO AUSHEVS COMMITTEE.

THE BOEVOE BRATSTVO HAS AN OFFICE IN JUST ABOUT EVERY OKRUG. BOEVOE BRATSTVOS REPUTATION SUGGESTS THE ORGANIZATION IS VERY WELL CONNECTED. UPON VISITING THE OFFICE IN VLADIVOSTOK, IT WAS IMMEDIATELY EVIDENT THAT PHYSICAL SECURITY WAS A PRIORITY. THE OFFICES HAD STEEL REINFORCED DOORS WITH SOPHISTICATED LOCKING MECHANISMS, AND IT DID

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NOT APPEAR VISITORS WERE LEFT FREE TO ROAM AROUND. THE BOEVOE BRATSTVO GROUP APPARENTLY ALSO PROVIDES SECURITY FOR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AS PART OF ITS MANY ACTIVITIES. WE WERE GREETED AS SOON AS WE ARRIVED AND WERE LED TO THE INNER OFFICES. BOBROV WAS IMMEDIATELY COOPERATIVE AND PROMISED TO PROVIDE THE NAMES FOR **VETERANS** OF THE KOREAN AND VIETNAM WARS AND OFFERED ASSISTANCE IN SETTING UP INTERVIEWS WITH **VETERANS** AT OUR REQUEST. BOBROV PROVIDED THE TEAM UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION FOR BOEVOE BRATSTVO GROUP R IN MOSCOW, 14 KRASINA ST, BLDG 8, PHONE 095-254-79-59 OR 095-254-66-20.

THE CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS OFFICE IS MR. SABLIN. BOBROV ALSO PROVIDED MOSCOW CONTACT INFORMATION FOR BORIS VSEVOLODOVICH GROMOV, THE GOVERNOR OF MOSKOVSKIY OBLAST AND PRESIDENT OF THE ENTIRE BOEVOE BRATSTVO ORGANIZATION. PHONE 095-254-79-59 OR 095-923-2413, EMAIL AMO@MOSREG.RU.

D. YURIJ ALEXANDROVICH PUDOVKIN: MERCHANT SHIPPING CAPTAIN FOR THE SHIP BANINO, PHONE (4232) 51-15-81, ADDRESS MOROZOVA ST., BLDG 9, APT 132, VLADIVOSTOK. RECOMMENDED WE TALK TO GEORGIJ GEORGEVICH PERMYAKOV, AN 86 YEAR-OLD WRITER AND JOURNALIST AND ALSO A FORMER MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OFFICER. PERMYAKOV SPEAKS FIVE LANGUAGES, AND DURING WWII HE WAS THE INTERPRETER PRESENT DURING THE FORMAL SURRENDER OF JAPANESE FORCES. PERMYAKOV LIVES IN Khabarovsk. PUDOVKIN ALSO RECOMMENDED WE SPEAK TO ALEKSANDR VLADIMIROVICH

KOLESOV FOR PERMYAKOV'S ADDRESS.

E. ALEKSANDR VLADIMIROVICH KOLESOV: THE **JCSD** TEAM MET WITH KOLESOV, WHO IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE VLADIVOSTOK PEN CLUB AND IS THE CHAIRMAN AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE RUBEZH ALMANAC. ADDRESS 4 PETRA VELIKOGO ST, VLADIVOSTOK, 690091. PHONE (4232) 265-168, FORT@ONLINE.VLADIVOSTOK.RU. KOLESOV GAVE US THE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR

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PERMYAKOV, WHO DOES NOT HAVE A TELEPHONE, ONLY AN ADDRESS, KHABAROVSK 680003, SOYUZNAYA ST, BLDG 68, APT 18.

KOLESOV PROVIDED INFORMATION FOR YEVGENIY PARSHIN, A JOURNALIST WHO IS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE AMUR GULAG NETWORK IN THE RUSSIAN FAR EAST. PARSHIN'S ADDRESS IS 676400 AMURSKAYA OBLAST, SVOBODNYJ CITY, ZAGORODNAYA ST, BLDG 57-1, APT 13. NO PHONE NUMBER PROVIDED.

KOLESOV ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT THE **JCSD** TEAM CONTACT ALEKSANDR IVANOVICH KOSTAROV, A HISTORIAN IN YUZHNO-SAKHALINSK. HE WORKS OR USED TO WORK FOR OBLASTNOJ ARCHIVE OF YUZHNO-SAKHALINSK. PHONE (4242) 42-45-95.

4. CONCLUSION. THIS TRIP WAS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL. DESPITE THE INITIAL SIGNIFICANT OBSTACLES THE TEAM ENCOUNTERED IN TRYING TO LOCATE INDIVIDUAL **VETERANS** FOR INTERVIEWS, THE CONTACTS WE MADE AND PLEDGES OF COOPERATION RECEIVED SHOULD PROVE EXTREMELY BENEFICIAL IN THE FUTURE. LOCAL OFFICIALS HAVE PLEDGED TO OBTAIN **VETERANS** INFORMATION FOR **JCSD**, AND INTERVIEWS WITH THESE OFFICIALS REVEALED THAT THERE WERE 119 SOVIET FAR EASTERN SHIPPING COMPANY MERCHANT VESSELS INVOLVED IN VIETNAM WITH A POTENTIAL POOL OF ABOUT 4000 **VETERANS** TO INTERVIEW. ADDITIONALLY, THE BOEVOE BRATSTVO SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE **JCSD** ACCESS TO A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF KOREAN WAR AND VIETNAM WAR **VETERANS**. THIS TRIP ALSO PROVED HIGHLY USEFUL FOR WWII FAR EAST SITE SURVEY COORDINATION, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE RUSSIAN COMMISSIONS SUPPORT

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OFFICE. SOME OF THE CONTACTS **JCSD** MADE WILL ALSO
BENEFIT WWII WORKING GROUP RESEARCH.

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